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It makes no difference whether it be called bubonic plague or be designated by some other term more pleasing. It is contagious and deadly just the same, several members of the same family often dying from it within a few hours.

Since the plague is as yet confined to parts of the city some 4 miles distant from the section in which shipping is generally carried on, there does not appear to be any present need of interfering with exports to the United States. Moreover, the chief export from Foochow to the United States is tea, and this ought to be especially free from contamination, it being brought from the upland country districts in boats traversing the Min River, and conveyed directly to foreign honges or warehouses, where it is stored to await shipment.

If either the plague or the cholera, or both, become general, the mortality will be much greater than what it was last year, owing to the fearful sanitary conditions brought about by the rains, which have prevailed here so long. It is raining now; it has been raining nearly all the while since the 1st of January.

You will be kept duly informed of the progress made by the plague.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

J. COURTNEY HIXSON,  
*United States Consul.*

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

CUBA.

*Smallpox in Cienfuegos.*

CIENTFUEGOS, *May 30, 1896.*

SIR: I sent to-day the following cablegram: "State Department, Washington. Smallpox. McGarr."

Smallpox has existed here for several weeks, confined to the negro and very poor white population, but the latest mortality report shows a great increase in the number of deaths, and indicates that the disease has assumed the proportions of an epidemic. There were 42 deaths from smallpox in the last weekly report, an increase over the previous week of 24.

The population of the city by the census of 1895 was 24,030.

Notwithstanding the mortality from the disease, but few deaths have occurred outside of the classes above mentioned, which have an aversion to vaccination.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

OWEN MCGARR, *Consul.*

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

FRANCE.

*Contradiction of report of cholera in Havre—Precautionary measures with regard to emigrants from Egypt.*

HAVRE, FRANCE, *May 19, 1896.*

SIR: I herewith inclose for the information of the Department an extract from the "Independance Havraise" of this date.

The rumor cabled from New York that cholera has appeared in this city is without any foundation in truth. Not a single case of cholera or cholerine has existed here since 1893, and the health of the city at this time is exceptionally good.

The Havre authorities and the steamship companies would regard the publication of this statement as an act of courtesy and good will, seeing that the unfounded rumor is calculated to interfere seriously with the passenger traffic to and from this port.

I am, sir, with high respect, your obedient servant,

C. W. CHANCELLOR,  
*United States Consul.*

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure.]

THE HAVRE LAZARET.

*Translation from L'Indépendance Havraise, May 19, 1896.*

"The United States consulate at Havre has, as a general measure of precaution, interdicted the embarkation for America of all emigrants coming from Alexandria until they have performed five or six days' quarantine at this port. On board the *Ferdinand de Lesseps*, in the Bassin de l'Eure, there are now 44 emigrants, who should have been embarked for America last Saturday on the *La Bretagne*, of the French Transatlantic Line, and to-day 150 more emigrants for the Hamburg Line have arrived from the infected country, but can not be embarked until they have remained here five days under observation.

"Such precautionary measures are an honor to the American Government, which knows well how to preserve its people against the cholera now as in 1892. \* \* \* Through telegraphic information we learn that the epidemic of cholera is spreading with great rapidity at Alexandria, and the American authorities have not been slow to enforce the regulations of its Government as a precautionary measure. What precautions, in the meantime, are our sanitary authorities taking? We do not clearly see, and notably in that which concerns Havre. We ask ourselves by what amiable preference our port is particularly selected as the common station at which to stop emigrants coming from infected countries. If they had been stopped at Marseilles the measure would have been logical, but to allow them to come to Havre, after having traversed the whole of France, should not be permitted. \* \* \*

"It can not be said that Havre is infected at this time, as stated in a cablegram from New York yesterday."

ITALY.

*Precautionary measures at Naples with regard to vessels from Egyptian ports.*

NAPLES, June 4, 1896.

SIR: In reply to your dispatch of the 15th ultimo, relative to epidemic of cholera at Alexandria, Egypt, there is no doubt that the newspaper reports are exaggerated, but there is probably much cholera in Cairo and the interior. All ships arriving at this port which have touched at Port Said or Alexandria (there being one vessel every eight days) are fumigated by the Italian authorities before entering the harbor, the baggage of all passengers disinfected, and their whereabouts reported daily to the medical officers of the port for one week after landing. No military transport ships from Abyssinia stop at Port Said or Alexandria. I have notified the Fabre Steamship Company of Marseilles, where Arab passengers from Syrian ports are transferred for New York via Naples, to take no more of them until the sanitary conditions of the East are improved.

The agents of the line here inform me that my request will be granted. Nearly all of the emigrants who embark here for America, as you well know, are from Calabria and Sicily. Their baggage is subjected to a thorough inspection by my assistants.

The general health of Naples is good. There was considerable small-pox during the winter and spring in consequence of which I thought it